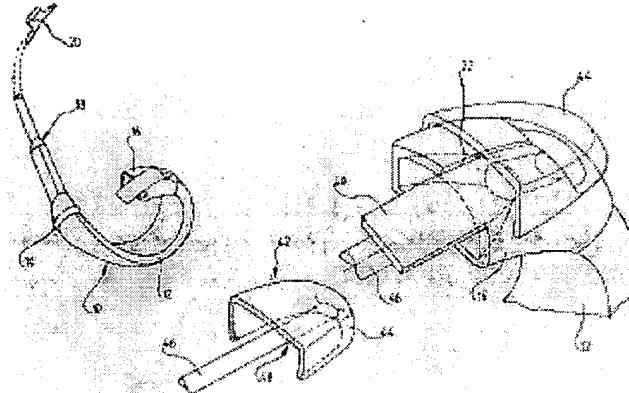


Surgical implant for treating obesity comprises inflatable band with male and female couplings to make ring round oesophagus or stomach

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Inventor: CREUSY VALERIE; NIVILLE ERIK
Applicant: COUSIN BIOTECH (FR)
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The implant consists of an inflatable band (12) which can be fitted round the lower end of the patient's oesophagus or upper end of the stomach and closed round it by male (14) and female (16) couplings which have movable elements to hold them in place - a sectional rod with a head on each end to engage with a matching surface on the female coupling so that it grips the male coupling. The female coupling also has a lengthwise slot (22) to receive the male coupling and wall elements on either side of the slot with holes for the rod.



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